

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A hinge device for coupling a first unit rotatable about a first rotation axis and a second unit rotatable about a second rotation axis parallel with the first rotation axis in an apparatus having the first and second units, comprising:
  - 5 a housing;
  - a first rotating member adapted to be coupled to the first unit and rotatable about the first rotation axis with respect to the housing;
  - 10 a second rotating member adapted to be coupled to the second unit and rotatable about the second rotation axis with respect to the housing;
  - a first linearly moving member cooperating with the first rotating member and linearly movable with respect to the housing;
  - 15 a second linearly moving member cooperating with the second rotating member and linearly movable with respect to the housing;
  - a first resilient member urging the first linearly moving member against the first rotating member; and
  - a second resilient member urging the second linearly moving member against the second rotating member.
- 20 2. The hinge device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first and second rotating members are engagedly rotated.
3. The hinge device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first and second rotating members include mutually engaging gears so that the rotating members can rotate together with each other.
- 25 4. The hinge device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first and second linearly moving members are engagedly moved.
- 30 5. The hinge device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first and second linearly

moving members are formed integrally with each other.

6. The hinge device as claimed in claim 1, wherein one of the first rotating member and the first linearly moving member includes a first cam portion and the other includes a  
5 first cam follower portion cooperating with the first cam portion, and one of the second rotating member and the second linearly moving member includes a second cam portion and the other includes a second cam follower portion cooperating with the second cam portion
- 10 7. The hinge device as claimed in claim 6, wherein each of the first and second cam portions includes an upward slant surface and a downward slant surface.
- 15 8. The hinge device as claimed in claim 7, wherein the cam portion includes a first insertion groove into which the cam follower portion can be inserted at a distal end of the downward slant surface, a horizontal surface, and a second insertion groove into which the cam follower portion can be inserted.
9. The hinge device as claimed in claim 6, wherein the first and second rotating members are engagedly rotated.  
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10. The hinge device as claimed in claim 6, wherein the first and second linearly moving members are engagedly moved.
11. The hinge device as claimed in claim 6, wherein the first cam portion includes a  
25 first fixing groove into which the first cam follower portion can be inserted and the second cam portion includes a second fixing groove into which the second cam follower portion can be inserted; when the first cam follower portion is inserted into the first fixing groove, the second rotating member can rotate while the first rotating member is maintained in a stationary state; and when the second cam follower portion is inserted into the second fixing groove, the first rotating member can rotate while the second rotating member is  
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maintained in a stationary state.

12. The hinge device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the first cam portion includes a horizontal surface contiguous to the first fixing groove, and stoppers at both ends thereof  
5 for preventing movement of the first cam follower portion.

13. The hinge device as claimed in claim 12, wherein the horizontal surface of the first cam portion is provided with at least one stopper groove relatively shallower than the first and second fixing grooves.

10 14. The hinge device as claimed in claim 12, wherein the second cam portion further includes an upward slant surface, a horizontal surface, and a stopper at one end thereof for preventing movement of the second cam follower portion.

15 15. The hinge device as claimed in claim 12, wherein the second cam portion includes an upward slant surface and a downward slant surface.

16. The hinge device as claimed in claim 1, wherein one of the first rotating member and the first linearly moving member includes a first protrusion and the other includes a  
20 groove into which the first protrusion can be inserted, and one of the second rotating member and the second linearly moving member includes a second protrusion and the other includes a second groove into which the second protrusion can be inserted.

25 17. The hinge device as claimed in claim 16, wherein the member provided with the first groove is formed with a track for guiding movement of the first protrusion, and the member provided with the second groove is formed with a track for guiding movement of the second protrusion.

30 18. The hinge device as claimed in claim 16, wherein the first and second rotating members are engagedly rotated.

19. The hinge device as claimed in claim 16, wherein the first and second linearly moving members are engagedly moved.

5 20. The hinge device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first and second linearly moving members are provided with through-holes, the first and second rotating members have extension rods extending in the first and second rotation axes, respectively, and the first and second linearly moving members and the first and second resilient members are fitted around the extension rods.

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21. The hinge device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the housing has passages through which a circuit wire connecting between the first and second units passes.

22. The hinge device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first and second rotating members are connected to the first and second units at one end of the housing, and the other end of the housing is provided with holes through which a circuit wire passes.